

REPORT: C'S FINALLY PULL TRIGGER ON RONDO DEAL

THE STAR POINT GUARD IS HEADED TO DALLAS IN A BLOCKBUSTER. PAGE 17

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FACE OF TERROR

Marathon bombing. Bostonians got a look at alleged Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev on Thursday, as he attended a pretrial hearing. PAGE 02

Jane Flavell Collins



Courtroom sketch of Boston Marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev. Sketch by Jane Flavell Collins. / NICOLAUS CZARNECKI, METRO

Cabbies:
Uber really
needs to be
regulated

PAGE 04

**We actually
got to go
see 'The
Interview'**

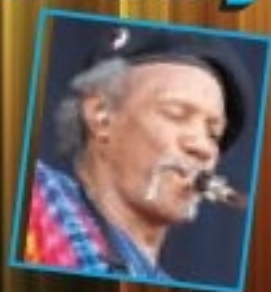
PAGE 13



**Is Cameron
Diaz really
getting
married?**

PAGE 14

"A Holiday Blues, New Orleans, Southern Rock Blast!"



MICHAEL ALLMAN

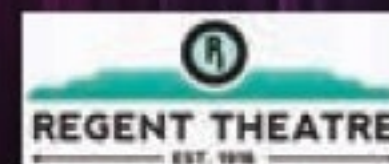
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In courtroom, Tsarnaev seems dapper, relaxed



Supporters of Dzhokhar Tsarnaev hold signs outside the Moakley Federal Courthouse on Thursday after a pretrial hearing for the Boston Marathon bombing suspect. At right, marathon bombing survivor Marc Fucarile leaves the courthouse. / NICOLAUS CZARNECKI, METRO

1

NEWS

Top 3

The best of Metro.us

- 1 'Accused Boston Marathon bomber appeared "dapper and relaxed" in court'
- 2 PHOTOS: Production stills from "The Interview"
- 3 '5 of the best acting breakthroughs of 2014'



On the go

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Boston. The accused marathon bomber showed his face in public for the first time in 17 months.

The man accused of setting off two bombs at the finish line of the 2013 Boston Marathon appeared dapper and relaxed Thursday in a federal courtroom in Boston, where he made his second public appearance since he was arrested and charged with the deadly terror attacks.

Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, 21, wore a black zip-up cardigan sweater and a calm expression as he sat shoulder to shoulder with his defense team in a packed room at the Moakley Federal House on Thursday.

Tsarnaev faces a slew of charges in the April 15, 2013, bombing, which left three people dead and as many as 264 injured.

His appearance was a far cry from the last time the public caught a glimpse of him. In his prior court appearance 17 months ago, Tsarnaev's left arm was in a cast and the left side of his face appeared scarred and swollen. On Thursday, Tsarnaev's face appeared normal, though his left eye drooped. His hair was curled and tousled, and he had a light beard.

Tsarnaev faces the death

Charges.

Tsarnaev faces a 30-count federal indictment.

- He faces four counts of murder for the deaths of three bombing victims and the shooting death of an MIT

police officer.

- He is also charged with conspiring to use and using a weapon of mass destruction, malicious destruction of property causing death, and terrorism.

Quoted

"The U.S. government is killing our innocent civilians."

"I can't stand to see such evil go unpunished."

"We Muslims are one body, you hurt one you hurt us all."

Tsarnaev's scrawlings on the inside of a drydocked boat in Watertown, shortly before his arrest.

penalty if convicted at the end of his trial, which is set to begin Jan. 5. At Thursday's pretrial conference, a federal judge said he remained concerned about media leaks that have plagued the case.

U.S. District Judge George O'Toole also called upon attorneys on both sides to remain tight-lipped about the case. Tsarnaev has invoked his right to waive appearances at all pre-trial conferences since his July

10, 2103, arraignment.

On Thursday, O'Toole asked Tsarnaev if he understood the particulars of his case and whether his absence from federal court until now was his own decision.

Tsarnaev stood and answered each question with a sturdy and clear "yes, sir." He would spend the next 20 minutes of the half-hour hearing adjusting his clothing, sitting with his hands folded, eyes either looking down at the table or at his three defense attorneys. O'Toole said a witness list and evidence would remain sealed until a jury is seated. That is expected to happen by early to mid-January.

As Thursday's proceedings wrapped up, and Tsarnaev was led away by a federal marshal, a woman's outburst rang through the packed courtroom in Russian. The woman left court without incident, and told reporters in the elevator and outside that she said, in Russian, "Be strong, my boy."

"I said in court, 'Jahar, you have a lot of supporters. We

are here for you. We pray for you. We know you are innocent. Be strong, son.' That's what I said," she continued. The woman identified herself as Elena Teyer, the mother-in-law of Tsarnaev's friend, Ibragim Todashev. Todashev was shot dead when he lunged at an FBI agent while being quizzed over his involvement with Dzhokhar's older brother Tamerlan in an unsolved Boston triple murder. Tamerlan Tsarnaev is the alleged mastermind of the marathon bombing. He was shot dead by police in Watertown.

Outside the courtroom, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev's supporters were out in full force, as they have been at previous court dates. One woman, who calls herself Carina, held a sign that read, "FBI entrapment = false conviction."

"We are here to support him. We want him to have a fair trial," said Carina, who was in the courtroom with Tsarnaev. "I hope it will be a fair trial, I don't think that it will."

Before proceedings were underway, Boston Marathon bombing survivor Marc Fucarile, who lost part of his leg in the terror attack, lifted his prosthetic leg in a faceoff with Tsarnaev's supporters, who gathered outside the courthouse entrance holding signs.

Chris, a 25-year-old Boston resident who asked that his last name be withheld, said he attended Thursday's court proceedings out of curiosity. "It's

On Twitter

- "Can't believe the idiots supporting the Boston marathon bomber outside his court hearing" @TIFFSYTIFFSY
- "So people were protesting in favor of the Boston bomber at his most recent court date. Are you [expletive] kidding me? I'm speechless." @CLAYBRUNEAU
- "Why do we have trial for someone like the Boston marathon bomber.. cut his throat in times square." @MCMILLEN_MIKE
- "They're still showing the Boston Marathon bomber's face on the news. Disgusting. Dont they know that's what he wanted? -.-" @ASKARKOFFICIAL
- "Anyone supporting the Boston bomber at the fed court house are stupid. Have a nice time getting monitored by the feds haha" @TOOHURLEY



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such a huge case. I think they have every right to be here protesting. This is actually a little bit toned down compared to other times they've been here.

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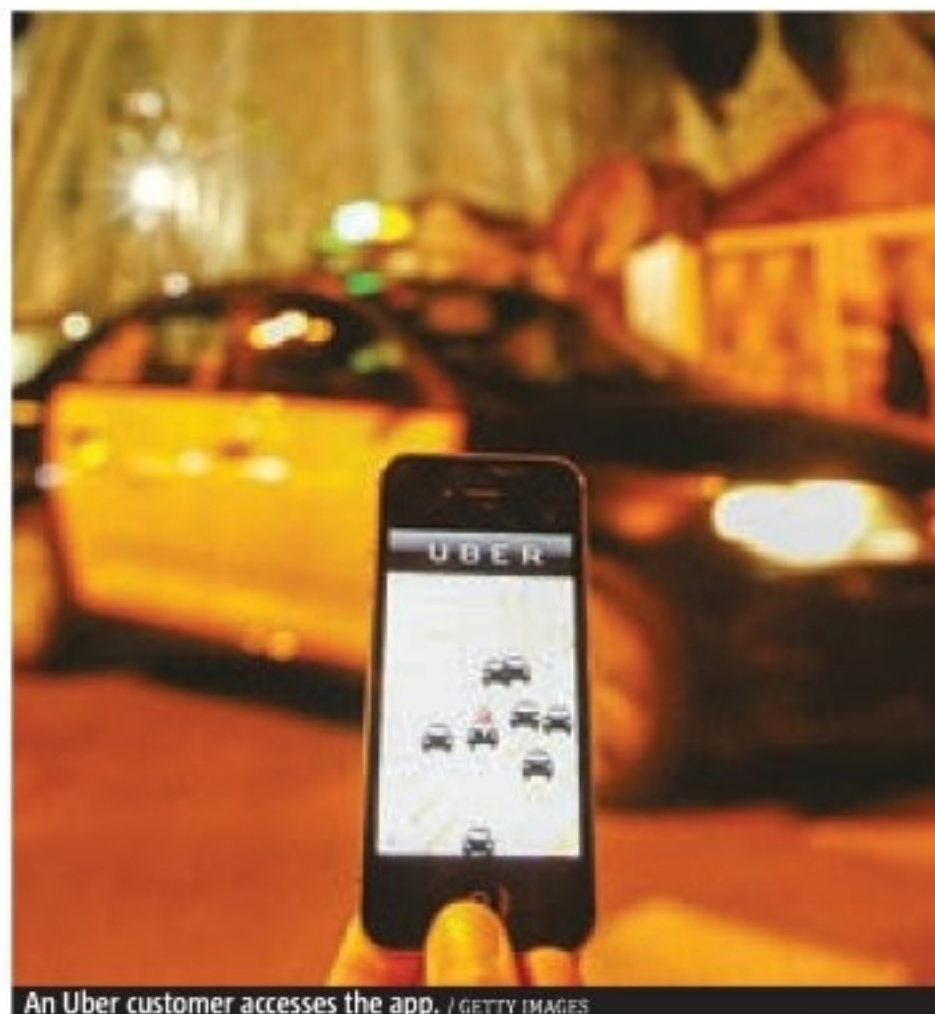
Cabbies: Uber rape allegations show need for more regulation

Rideshare. Cabbies say rideshare drivers should comply with taxi driver rules.

Local taxi advocates say a recent rape allegation against an Uber driver is proof that rideshare services need to be regulated just as tightly as the cab industry.

Wednesday evening, the Middlesex District Attorney's office announced that Alejandro Done, a 46-year-old Uber driver from Boston, was charged with rape, kidnapping and assault and battery.

Prosecutors say Done pulled up to a residence on Tremont Street in Boston at around 7:30 p.m. December 6 to pick up the alleged victim, described by authorities as a young woman.



An Uber customer accesses the app. / GETTY IMAGES

Quoted

"Allowing these entities to exist and compete on the street without being appropriately regulated, it's lowered the defenses of a number of people." Regan

Done drove his victim to a secluded area in Cambridge, then jumped in the backseat where the victim was sitting, said prosecutors.

The Uber driver then struck her with his hands, strangled her, locked the car doors so that she could not escape and covered her mouth so she couldn't scream. During an ensuing physical struggle, he allegedly sexually assaulted the woman, according to authorities.

"This is the result of those vehicles not being regulated, not being monitored," said Tiffany Mitchell, a manager for Revere-based City Cab and Top Cab.

"If you take somebody

from Point A to Point B and you charge for that and you're not registered with the city of Boston Police hackney unit — that's illegal," said Stephen Regan, a spokesman for the Massachusetts Regional Taxi Advocacy Group.

Uber says its drivers are accountable. Riders can view the driver's face, name, type of car, license plate and track the driver on a map, said company spokesman Taylor Bennett. "We have created the safest platform in transportation," said Bennett.



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Uber trouble

Boston Police this week warned the public to be wary of ridesharing services after three women said they were sexually assaulted in the early hours of Sunday.

- Earlier this month, Uber was banned from operating in New Delhi, India, after a female passenger accused one of its drivers of rape, a case that has reignited a debate about the safety of women in the South Asian nation.
- In June, an Uber driver in Los Angeles was arrested on charges of kidnapping and sexually assaulting a passenger.
- Also in June, Daveea Whitmire, a 28-year-old San Francisco man driving for Uber, allegedly punched a passenger after the two got into an argument.
- The New York Times reported earlier this month that Uber has been fighting against proposals in several states that would implement stringent background checks similar to those in the taxi industry.

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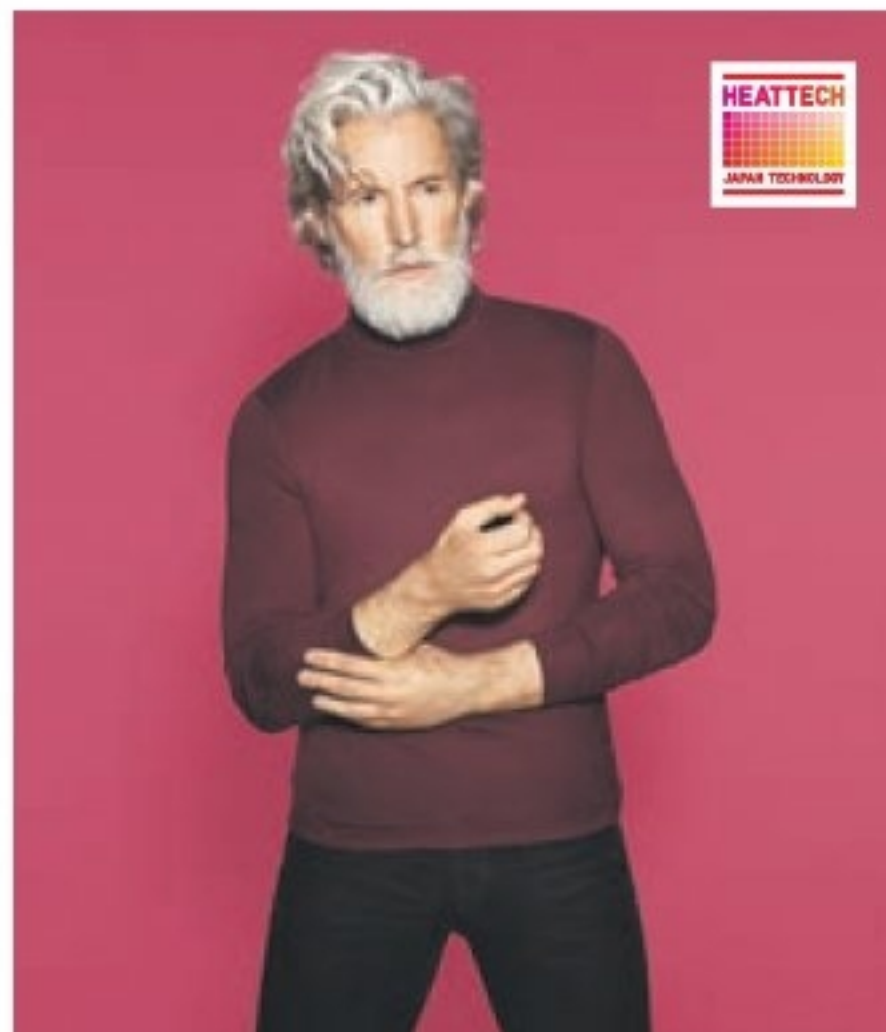


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6

Outgoing Governor Patrick ponders his past and future

History. President Obama called in on the governor's last radio show.

Outgoing Gov. Deval Patrick says he is still undecided about his future plans.

Speaking during his last "Ask the Governor" radio show Thursday, Patrick said private equity firms and universities have approached him and that he wouldn't rule out working as a consultant or testing the public speaking circuit.

"The flirtations have begun," said Patrick, who will be leaving the Corner Office in January after serving two terms as governor.

Patrick said the budget cuts that affected state programs such as the controversial Department of Children and Families (DCF) were among the toughest calls



Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick
NICOLAUS CZARNECKI, METRO

he had to make as the state's chief executive. DCF has been troubled with allegations regarding lackluster care rendered to children.

"When I think about some of the issues around DCF, those issues have roots in those budget cuts," said Patrick, who was the state's first black governor.

Patrick said attempting to reform the criminal justice system, specifically with

regard to sentencing and reintegration programs for convicted criminals, was also a challenge.

The state, according to Patrick, should continue to move away from "putting sentencing on autopilot" and allow judges leeway on sentences, particularly in cases involving nonviolent drug crimes.

He said he would have preferred if property taxes were decreased in more communities across the state.

President Barack Obama called the program - introducing himself as "Barack Obama formerly of Somerville" - to congratulate Patrick for his governorship.

He hailed the governor's record on jobs, education and health care access.

"Deval, you done good, man," said Obama.



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Jobs

Unemployment in Mass drops to 5.8 percent

Unemployment in Massachusetts dropped to the national level of 5.8 percent in November, as the Bay State added 13,500 jobs, Massachusetts' Office of Labor and Workforce Development reported Thursday.

The Bay State's unemployment rate was above the national rate in September and October.

In November, the state caught up with the national level dropping from 6 percent in October to 5.8 percent. **SHNS**

By the numbers

4.6%

Thursday's report was the last Gov. Deval Patrick will see as governor. When Patrick entered office in January 2007, unemployment was at 4.6 percent.



Baker mans the Red Kettle

Downtown Crossing rang out with holiday cheer Thursday afternoon as Governor-elect Charlie Baker took over The Salvation Army Red Kettle to help those in need. The Salvation Army has set a statewide Red Kettle campaign goal of \$3.36 million this year to support individuals and families throughout the Commonwealth.

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Boston basks in the glow of its many holiday trees



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TOM O'KEEFE

@BostonTweet

Tom O'Keefe is @BostonTweet and the founder of #DownloadBoston, a local movement to increase the awareness of Boston-based consumer startups.



Boston looks beautiful during the holidays. From the white lights down the Comm. Ave Mall to the brilliant blue trellis in Christopher Columbus Park, Boston looks beautiful in lights.

The 85-foot-tall Christmas tree in Faneuil Hall is a popular attraction, as is the tree from Nova Scotia in the Boston Common. However, there are a number of other holiday displays that you might not know about.

The most unusual holiday display is inside the Liberty Hotel, where you'll find six Christmas trees hanging upside down from the ceiling — a must-see.

The Ritz Carlton always creates an edible display, and this year they crafted a life-size Sugar Plum Fairy from the Boston Ballet's production of "The Nutcracker." This ballerina is unlike any other in that she's made from 15 pounds of chocolate, 13 pounds of fondant and 10 pounds of sugar.

Speaking of sugar, the Taj Boston has a sweet replica of the Boston Public Garden made entirely from candy. Every landmark appears in the "mini garden," from the George Washington statue to the Swan Boats to the Ducklings.

The elegant Lenox Hotel is one of my favorite spots during the holidays. Decorated with white lights, three Christmas trees and a roaring fire, it's one of the most beautiful hotel lobbies in Boston.

When a drink is needed, the festive and warm Mr. Dooley's on Broad Street is my favorite bar in December.

Decorated beautifully with white lights and holiday wreaths, Mr Dooley's makes it feel like Christmas, and they also happen to have the best Guinness in Boston.

And finally, I would be remiss if I didn't mention the leg lamp in the window at The Pour House.

Nothing says Merry Christmas quite like a leg lamp. It's a major award.

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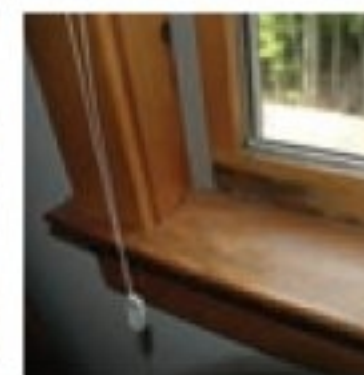
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White House does not dismiss idea of a Castro visit

Cuba trip. The White House on Wednesday had said it was possible Obama could visit Havana.

The White House does not dismiss the possibility of an eventual, precedent-shattering visit to Washington by Cuban President Raul Castro as part of President Barack Obama's plans to normalize relations with Havana.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs Roberta Jacobson, who is expected to visit Cuba in January, said renewed relations were not directly tied to

progress on human rights in Cuba.

"The president has had the leaders of both Burma and China to the United States," he said. By meeting such leaders, the United States can better influence countries to better respect universal human rights, he said.

The biggest obstacle to normal ties between the two countries is a decades-old embargo.

REUTERS

Quoted

"I wouldn't rule out a visit from President Castro."

Josh Earnest, White House spokesman



Cuban President Raul Castro / REUTERS

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Sugar is worse for you than salt



We feel the same way, kid. / GOODSHOT RF

Study. The not-so-sweet truth could break your heart.

Sugar, not salt, could put us at even greater risk of heart-related diseases, according to a new study out of Kansas City.

For years, scientists have pointed to salt's role in rising rates of cardiovascular issues, while the role of sugar has long been underestimated.

"Approximately 15 percent of people in the U.S. are consuming 25 percent or more

Stats

25%+

The average American is getting more than a quarter of his or her calories from added sugars, which triples the risk of heart problems.

[of their] calories from added sugars. This level of intake almost triples their risk of cardiovascular mortality," says lead researcher Dr. James J. DiNicolantonio of Saint Luke's Mid American Heart Institute. "And yet this level of intake is supposedly OK based on the Institute of Medicine's recommendations."

It's the ketonic monosaccharide fructose found in sugar that is particularly harmful and responsible for contributing to hypertension.

Primarily metabolized in the liver, this sugar found in abundance in fruits and honey leads to fatty liver and hepatic insulin resistance, causing the pancreas to secrete more insulin, which drives increased visceral fat storage, inflammation and diabetes — all of which puts stress on the heart.

DiNicolantonio and colleagues also established that the average reductions in blood pressure achieved by restricting salt intake tend to be relatively small, meaning that current

recommendations to restrict sodium intake to less than 3 grams could actually intensify cardiovascular issues.

"Lowering sodium in the food supply will likely increase the intake of added sugars and processed foods, as sodium intake is likely physiologically driven — we've been consuming the same amount of sodium for 50 years. We will likely just eat more processed foods that are now lower in sodium to obtain the sodium our physiology demands," he says.

These new findings could pave the way for significant changes in dietary recommendations, with the expert advising, "The best way to prevent high blood pressure would be to eat real whole foods and avoid anything with added sugars: sucrose (also known as table sugar) and high fructose corn syrup."

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Leaving Tolkien-ville

Farewells. Peter Jackson's "Hobbit" trilogy comes to an end — as does his signature vision of the author's world.

This is it. With the arrival of "The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies," there is no more Middle-earth. That is to say there is no more of Peter Jackson's iconic rendition of Middle-earth. Since 2001's "The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Rings," Jackson has been bringing J.R.R. Tolkien's world to the movies. And though his take on the series' initial, slender installment has been brutally puffed-out, it will be a shame to never again see Ian McKellen's Gandalf, Cate Blanchett's Galadriel and more. Let's weep some.



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See you later?

What to expect from the inevitable 'Hobbit' reboot

Let's face it, eventually Peter Jackson will get bored again. Or the economy of Wellington, New Zealand, will need a boost. Or New Line Cinema will realize it doesn't have any other sure-fire revenue streams. Or some young film executive — who is probably in middle school right now — will think it's a brilliant idea. No matter what the impetus, eventually "The Hobbit" franchise will be rebooted. Here's how we think things will be different next time.

1 Hey, how about four movies? Five, maybe?

Sure, some people complained about stretching a rather thin children's novel into three extra-long feature films, but they still bought tickets. So let's see how far we can go with this.



Orlando Bloom will be sad if there's another Legolas.

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF WARNER BROS. PICTURES

2 More "Lord of the Rings" characters

Nobody seemed to mind too much how Peter Jackson shoehorned Legolas (Orlando Bloom) into "The Hobbit" movies. Think bigger!

3 Messing with "The Lord of the Rings" timeline even more

Who cares about continuity

when you can have even more fan-friendly inside jokes? Say, let's have Sean Bean show up even earlier and die again. People love watching that guy die! (If Sean Bean is no longer available, check the prices for Hologram Sean Bean.)

4 Smell-o-vision

Using 3-D cameras and those absolutely hid-

eous higher frame rates might have been enough bells and whistles for a 2010 crowd, but tomorrow's audiences need a little something extra — such as movie-related scents pumped into the theater. You think you know dwarves now, just wait until you get a whiff of them after an unexpectedly long journey.

5 Can Tolkien be a character?

Bilbo telling the story of "The Hobbit" was a great framing device, but how about a framing device for the framing device? Kids love narrative bookends! We could feature J.R.R. Tolkien first getting the idea for "The Hobbit." Heck, it could even work as a prequel to a Tolkien biopic starring Elijah Wood (or Hologram Elijah Wood).

NED EHRBAR

Timeline of the 'Rings'



1966: "The Hobbit"

Here's one of the most beautiful films that exists only to exploit a legal loophole. Producer William L. Snyder envisioned a splashy feature. But when rights were about to lapse, he cranked out a brief short.



1977-1980: Animated films

Rankin-Bass produced their own "Hobbit" toon, followed by Ralph Bakshi's part-rotoscoped "The Lord of the Rings." The far more cute "Return of the Kings" closed things out.



1985: "The Fantastic Journey of the Hobbit Mr. Bilbo Baggins"

The first live-action Middle-earth came from the Soviet Union, of course. "The Hobbit" became a TV movie, with actors scared by puppets.



2001-2003: "The Lord of the Rings"

One of the biggest gambles in movie history paid off, as we now know. But at the time there was a chance a pricey film series based on nerd books might never go mainstream.



2012-2014: "The Hobbit"

Needing his Tolkien fix but good, Jackson himself took over the prequel — then blew it out into three films and nine hours, partly out of Smaug-like greed, partly because he never wanted to leave.

Interview. Evangeline Lilly becomes Tauriel

Evangeline Lilly caught the world's attention on "Lost." The Canadian actress is now concluding her role as the warrior elf Tauriel in "The Battle of the Five Armies." But unlike the tenacious and impulsive character she plays, Lilly is completely serene, affable and down-to-earth. And director Peter Jackson wrote the role — a new character not in the book — just for her.

How involved were you in the creation of this new character?

I was invited to be in this creative process and as a writer, it was an honor to be with people who have won an Academy Award and also accept my ideas. All women in the Tolkien universe are strong and independent in their own ways. Galadriel represents power. Arwen, love. Eowyn, decision.

What does Tauriel represent?

She would represent compassion, the power of idealism and justice and innocence. She is very young, very naive, and she doesn't really understand how terrible the world is outside of her kingdom. She discovers that all is not as she believes, of course, in the midst of a terrible fight against the orcs. [Laughs]

What would you like Tauriel's fate to be?

She might have the same fate as Aragorn and journey through Middle-earth, discovering new places. I do not think she would go back to the realm of the Black Forest and receive orders from the king [Thranduil, played by Lee Pace]. She has seen too much.

LUZ LANCHEROS



2

CULTURE

Animal instinct

There's a Battle Moose?

A lot of colorful characters contribute to the titular Battle of the Five Armies in the final "Hobbit" film, with countless humans, dwarves, elves and orcs clanging swords and screaming bloody murder. But amid the din, one clear MVP shines through — a stalwart iconoclast worthy of his own spinoff franchise. That character? Lee Pace's moose. Pace's noble elf king, Thranduil, proudly rides into battle on the noblest and most magnificent of beasts, which I have dubbed his Battle Moose.

OK, yes, so it's actually technically an elfen elk, but Battle Moose is more fun to say than Battle Elk. And acknowledging that it's an elf riding an elk just feels too cutesy. The important part is the battling, anyway. This noble beast in action is definitely the highlight of the film. NED EHRBAR



Ralph Fiennes has a blast in the days leading up to WWII in Wes Anderson's "The Grand Budapest Hotel." / FOX SEARCHLIGHT

The best films of 2014

List. Our favorite movie of the year featured ScarJo. We also loved us some Wes Anderson.

This was a rough year, but the movies of 2014 didn't serve as escape; they offered accidental echoes of real life. The tragedies in Ferguson and Staten Island were reflected in angry, sharp movies about race such as "Dear White People," "Selma" and "Top Five." General anxieties about death were amplified in "Boyhood," "Only Lovers Left Alive" and "National Gallery." We couldn't even actually see the Seth Rogen comedy "The Interview" because of fear of terrorist strikes. There was occasional much-needed respite from the gloom. Here are the best, darkest, funniest and, occasionally, just fun movies of the year.

10 'Edge of Tomorrow' The first two-thirds of this Tom Cruise sci-fi are so good — it is "Groundhog Day" with aliens, after all — that the so-so third that follows is easy to excuse. More funny/clever than rip-roaring (though that, too), this — not interchangeable Marvel romps — is what should be clogging multiplexes.

9 'Selma' The world's first studio picture about Martin Luther King Jr. could have been another turgid biopic. But it's a thrilling tale of a small but vital chapter in his life as well as the grunt work of activism. Its portrayal of protests is more than accidentally topical, as peaceful protests concerning race rage in the streets.

8 'Two Days, One Night' It's easy to take for granted Belgium's Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne ("Kid with a Bike"), who reliably churn out deeply humanist and deeply gripping social dramas that often play like nail-biting thrillers. Their latest is only slightly better than usual, with Marion Cotillard rushing like mad to save her crappy job.

7 'Inherent Vice' The year's funniest comedy is, of course, an adaptation of the unadaptable Thomas Pynchon. The novelist's impenetrable stoner detective tome becomes more than just another "Big Lebowski": It has the weirdest sense of humor since, well, director Paul Thomas Anderson's own "Punch-Drunk Love."



Scarlett Johansson plays an alien seductress in "Under the Skin," our pick for best film of 2014. / A24

6 'Dear White People' Justin Simien's temperature taking of modern times as reflected through campus life wasn't really about stupid white people so much as about the diversity of black life never shown on screens. Of course, it was about stupid white people, too.

5 'We Are the Best!' Amid all the misery and tragedy of this year, there was always this: a joyous comedy about Swedish tween punk rock girls who take themselves very seriously.

4 'Listen Up Philip' There were a lot of sociopath movies this year, such as "Whiplash" and "Big Eyes." Jason Schwartzman's young, cartoonishly pompous novelist wasn't even the worst of them, but he was the saddest — an upstart trying to be the kind of literary jerk of a by-gone era and succeeding only at turning into a sour loner.

3 'National Gallery' Frederick Wiseman has been cranking out observational documentaries on institutions for half a century. This hang at the London museum is more of the same, only more brilliant than usual.

2 'The Grand Budapest Hotel' Wes Anderson's latest is so hilarious that its despair isn't noticeable till a second viewing.

1 'Under the Skin' Scarlett Johansson was dangerous in 2014. "Lucy" turned her into the master of the universe. She was merely an alien seductress in this mood piece, in which she trolled Glasgow luring bros to a mysterious death. It's also a study of ScarJo, celebrity: someone outside of us, lusted after yet unobtainable, who ultimately can never be one of us, even if that may be for the best.



MATT PRIGGE
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ADEWALE AKINNUOYE-AGBAJE DAVID ZAVAS AND CAMERON DIAZ EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS MATT SULLIVAN EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS GREG KURSTIN EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS CELIA COSTAS ALICIA EMERICH BASED ON THE
MUSIC BY THOMAS MEEHAN LYRICS BY CHARLES STROUSE COSTUME DESIGNER MARTIN CHARNOV COSTUME DESIGNER "LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE" COSTUME DESIGNER THIBONE CONTENT AGENCY, LLC COSTUME DESIGNER WILL GLUCK AND ALINE BROSH MCKENNA
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VILLAGE ROADSHOW PICTURES PG SOME MILD LANGUAGE AND RUDE HUMOR COLUMBIA PICTURES SONY

CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR THEATERS AND SHOWTIMES

Contraband. Too bad you may never get to see 'The Interview,' because it's pretty hilarious

Perhaps the funniest part about the unprecedented furor over "The Interview" is that it's all been over a movie with a record-shattering number of anus jokes. Pulled from theaters due to terrorist threats that are likely bluffs, it's a film too silly for international brouhahas, with a peerlessly goofy James Franco turn and lots and lots of Katy Perry. As satires go, this isn't "Dr. Strangelove," even if it ends in a ballsier cinematic act of war.

"The Interview" isn't even the first movie to target a North Korean leader. The world survived "Team America," which turned a puppet Kim Jong-il into a cockroach. Here, his tyrannical, babyfaced son (Randall Park) becomes the target of CIA lust after he agrees to a chat with Franco's David Skylark, a lowest common denominator infotainment god. Before he and his producer, Aaron (Rogen, who also co-directed), leave for the dictatorship, they agree — without really fully



James Franco and Seth Rogen head to North Korea for the controversial "The Interview." / SONY

understanding the gravity of their situation — to perform a covert form of poisoning.

The funny thing about people getting up in arms about "The Interview" is that Park's Kim winds up as unexpectedly semi-sympathetic. Meekly introducing himself to Franco's Skylark, he bonds with Skylark

over being despised by those who view them as dangerous for culture — and, in Kim's case, the human race.

Everything's building to a "Frost/Nixon"-style tete-a-tete that spills over into an outsized action climax. Rogen and company's glee in going really far is evident; you can picture

them bowling over the first time they saw the crazy things they came up with materialize on screen. Even a key moment, the censorship of which has been all over the news, does, for the record, go pretty far. "The Interview" is not worth dying for, but it's sad that it's been buried. **MATT PRIGGE**

Review

'The Interview'

Directors: Seth Rogen, Evan Goldberg

Stars: James Franco, Seth Rogen

Rating: R



TV watch list

COMEDY

'The Simpsons'

Homer stays too long at Moe's bar on Christmas Eve, and Marge tells him not to come home. Time to go to a movie and get some Chinese food, Homer. **SUNDAY, 8 P.M., FOX**

COMEDY

'Saturday Night Live'

Amy Adams hosts, with a little help from the dreamboats of One Direction. **SATURDAY, 11:30 P.M., NBC**

REALITY

'The Amazing Race'

Get ready to see who will win: The teams reach the finish line in Los Angeles. **SEASON FINALE, FRIDAY, 8 P.M., CBS**

DRAMA

'Homeland'

The name of the show gets literal, as Carrie and Saul return to the U.S. **SEASON FINALE, SUNDAY, 11 P.M., SHOWTIME**
LISA WEIDENFELD



How often has Marge made this face at Homer over the years? / FOX



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Interview. Joshua Jackson is the world's oldest 36-year-old

Joshua Jackson's latest show, "The Affair," wraps up its first 10-episode season Sunday night, but despite the series' success and critical acclaim, he understands if you still think of other work he's done when you see him. "Depending on where you are in the world, Pacey left a mark, and I'm 36 years old now. That's a long time ago," Jackson says of his breakout "Dawson's Creek" role. "Frankly, even before that, [there was] 'The Mighty Ducks.' Maybe not in the rest of the world, but for Canada, I still walk around as the bearded old man that I am now and have 9-year-olds

who are like, 'Charlie! Oh my God, what's going on?'"

But with age comes wisdom, and for Jackson, the 10-episode structure of "The Affair" was a revelation. "As a man who's done a lot of seasons of television and frankly, has just been working for a long, long time — I mean, this is my 25th year in the union, I can't believe that's true, but it's true — what is so lovely about doing 10 episodes is that just at the point at which you're tired and you want the season to be done, it's done and then you can go out and live the rest of your life," he says. **NED EHRBAR**

Home life

Second jobs

So what does the rest of his life look like these days? "Diane [Kruger] and I are building a house so I am a foreman on a construction site," he says. "The woman is key. I've been with Diane now for eight and a half years, and the process of being in love and accommodating another human being in your space is important. The thing that I've learned that I enjoy most about being in love and having a partner is having somebody who shares your story for better and for worse, right?"



NED EHRBAR
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CATCH THE SEASON FINALE OF
"THE AFFAIR" SUNDAY AT
10 P.M. ON SHOWTIME.
GETTY IMAGES

Cameron Diaz marrying one of the Madden twins

Cameron Diaz and heavily tattooed Good Charlotte twin Benji Madden have been dating since May, but apparently that's long enough to know he's a keeper. A source tells the National Enquirer that Diaz and Madden are "planning their wedding for early in the new year. They've been telling close friends in recent weeks about their plans, but it's very hush-hush." Well, I mean, it was very hush-hush until now. Way to go, anonymous source! Not everyone is thrilled, though, chief among

them Benji's twin brother, Joel. He's adamant about saying he "actually likes Cameron a lot and thinks they're a good match, but he doesn't want Benji to rush into something so quickly." Which is fair: I mean, has she even been around them long enough to conclusively tell them apart? Twins are hard, man.

THE WORD

Ned Ehrbar takes on the world of gossip.

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Hip-Hop Hanukkah

Music. A disco ball dreidel is just one reason to catch Matisyahu's new tour.

Don't expect any Hanukkah remixes at Matisyahu's annual Festival of Light tour.

"I don't know where that came from," says the Jewish reggae artist. "I don't even know what a classic Hanukkah song is and we certainly don't perform any. I have a couple of Hanukkah songs I've written that we perform."

Now in its eighth year, the artist says the tour is a combination of songs from their new record and older ones such as "One Day" and "Youth."

"We do have a huge disco ball dreidel, which is amazing," he adds.

Matisyahu, born Matthew Paul Miller, and his backing band the Dub Trio, released a fourth studio album, "Akeda," in June. It's full of the rhythmic reggae, hip-hop and electronic permutations that the Pennsylvania-born, New York-raised 35-year-old is known for, but with some rock flavor.

"The new album is more eclectic," Matisyahu says.



If you go

Matisyahu

With Judith Hill
Friday, 8 p.m.
House of Blues
15 Lansdowne St.
\$28.50-\$39.50, 888-693-2583
www.hob.com/boston

Matisyahu also tries to light a menorah in the venues that don't have an ordinance against pyrotechnics. / JARED POLIN

Tours

On the road

Veteran touring artist Matisyahu doesn't need long to pack for a trip: "I underpack. I take exactly what I need," he says. "I travel with a small backpack, even when I'm leaving for months. Essential items are headphones and some kind of book I'm into. Most times I don't even take my computer with me, just my phone. Then I look at where I'm going — the Northeast, for this tour. I'll need one warm coat and a pair of warm pants that I can wear every day. Then one pair of really comfortable pants to wear on stage every night. I always need comfortable clothes."

"One of the things I'm good at is blending things together and having it make sense. The people I make music with, we work outside genre. We try to create our own unique sound."



LINDA LABAN
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linda.laban@metro.us

THEATER

'Tafuta!: A Young Boy's Search for the True Meaning of Kwanzaa'

Friday and Saturday
Roxbury Community College
Mainstage Theater
1234 Columbus Ave., Roxbury
\$20-\$25, 617-522-3900
www.originationinc.org

This musical, with the participation of more than 75 kids from across the Boston public school system, is all about Kwanzaa, a holiday celebrating African heritage. We're all familiar with the colorful costumes and accoutrements, but what's really at the heart of the festival? That's the question addressed here, through song and dance and theater.

MOVIES

'Through a Lens Darkly'

Through Dec. 28
Institute of Contemporary Art
100 Northern Ave.

\$5-\$10, 617-478-3103
www.icaboston.org

This 2013 documentary by Thomas Allen Harris examines the history of black photography, taking into account both the artists themselves and their subjects, and showing how successive generations used the medium for social change as well as self-expression. Featured names include Carrie Mae Weems, Lorna Simpson, Anthony Barboza, Hank Willis Thomas, Coco Fusco and Clarissa Sligh.

ART

Cynthia Brody: The Subject of Women

Through Feb. 6
Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge
Free, 617-577-1400
www.multiculturalartscenter.org
Cynthia Brody creates surreal, brilliantly colored mixed-media works exploring the feminine experience. There's a resonance here, with depictions of goddesses and the mysterious symbolic imagery of the Tarot, suggesting that these women, whether emerging from the tops of flowers or solemnly bearing a child, might represent archetypes of womanhood. **MATTHEW DINARO**

THEATER



KEVIN WHITE

Irving Berlin's 'White Christmas'

Through Dec. 28
Citi Wang Theater, 270 Tremont St.; \$35-\$125
800-745-3000, www.ticketmaster.com

The world can get pretty cynical, even around the holidays, but at least you can escape to a simpler time with this theatrical adaptation of the 1954 holiday musical film "White Christmas." It may not have Bing Crosby and company, but it's got all those great old Irving Berlin tunes, which ought to be as comforting as a nice hot chocolate.

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Horoscope

♈ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. You will be impatient, but that doesn't mean you should gossip or make someone look bad. Bide your time and wait for the outcome to unfold.

♊ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20. Making solid investments before the end of the year will help increase your finances. Do your best to show someone how much you care.

♋ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18. Positive results are imminent if you keep your promises. Think before you speak, or you may inadvertently cause embarrassment to someone who looks up to you.

♋ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. Despite your hard work, your plans and projects will fall short. Someone will try to take advantage of your good nature and desire to please. Look out for No. 1.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20. It will be difficult to get your ideas off the ground by yourself. Talk to people who understand your plans and can give you suggestions and help along the way. Utilize your skills.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21. If you are seeking inspiration, study different cultures, countries or subjects that interest you. There are many ways to expand your knowledge and stimulate your mind.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20. Someone will try to discredit you. Make sure you accurately present yourself and what you have to offer. Take credit for your contributions.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22. Romance will brighten your day. Plan to do something special with a loved one. Personal adjustments made now will enable you to take on a number of new challenges in the coming year.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. There are tremendous personal changes happening. Whatever has been holding you back will be rectified, allowing you to move forward. It's time to try something new and exciting.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. No matter what you do, you will not be able to please everyone. In the end, you need to do what you feel is right. Don't feel obliged to answer for your choices. Romance is on the rise.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. You can expand your social and professional connections if you participate in an organization that you believe in. This will bring you additional allies.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. Someone you care about won't appreciate the extra hours you put in at work, but the financial results will be worth it. Make plans to compensate for your lack of downtime. **EUGENIA LAST**

Letters

Terrorism would fail if all had guns

Re: 'Terrorist acts from Sydney to the Philadelphia suburbs' (Metro.us, Dec. 16) In that Q&A one of the "experts" you interview makes reference to "soft targets like cafes and other public spaces." One can only conclude that Ms. Maria Haberfeld is talking about so called "Gun Free Zones." Because of strict gun laws the entire country of Australia is effectively one

big "Gun Free Zone." Apparently, this gave the "terrorist" free rein for over 20 hours because he was the only guy with a gun. A report on the incident stated the Police finally took down the suspect using "live ammunition."

Informed Americans know the European leftists publishing Metro hate the Second Amendment and the protection it affords the individual from criminals, terrorists and oppression. In all those cases the law enforcement shows up when it's too late!

JOHN STASNEK, VIA EMAIL

The gifts that no one can afford to give

Re: 'Metro Gift Guide' (Metro, Dec. 18) I'm sorry, did I forget what city we live in here? So few people are paying their taxes, all the schools are closing. So few people are saving money, there are 90-year-olds working full-time jobs. Fast food workers who can't even get simple orders correct are protesting for \$15/hour wages — and you're pushing \$65 chocolate-covered Cheerios?

Three months' worth of pickles for \$170? A \$350 camera for a 12-year-old? \$30 socks? An \$85 pet bed? Who even comes up with this ridiculous sh—? Do you do studies about demographics and your target audience? I can afford every single thing on your list, yet I wouldn't waste my money on any bit of this overpriced crap. What the hell is wrong with you?

JENN MATRONE-CLARK, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

Sudoku: Easy and hard

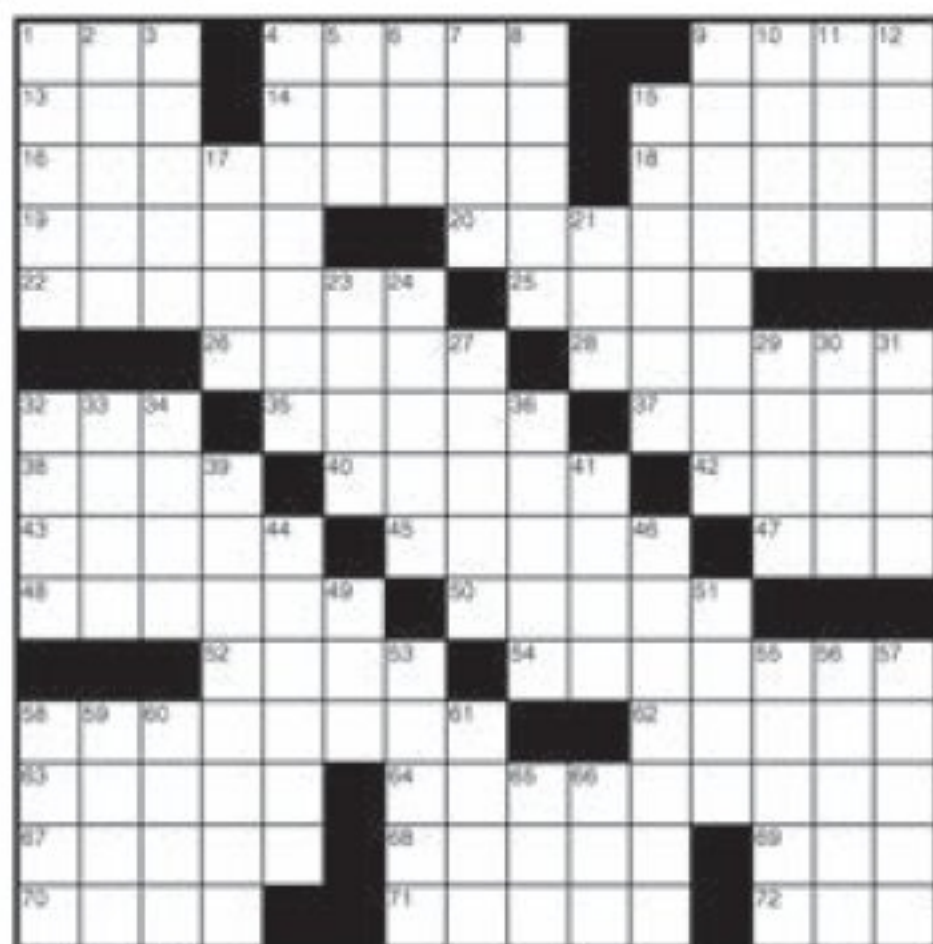
			8	9				7
		1		3	6			
6			5		1	3		
	4	9				6		1
	1			6			8	
7		5				2	3	
		8	7		3			6
			2	4		7		
5				1	9			

5		1	9			6		8
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		7	2		5	9		
9				3	4			
		8	4					
				7	1			2
7		6			2	4		1

How to play

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Crossword



Across

- 1 CEO degree
- 4 Gets tired
- 9 Bushwhack
- 13 Startled cry
- 14 "The — Has Landed"
- 15 Kangaroo feature
- 16 Beach find
- 18 Had
- 19 Mischief
- 20 Degree of heat
- 22 On a tether
- 25 — de plume
- 26 Quartet member
- 28 Act in an appropriate manner
- 32 And, for Wolfgang
- 35 Waffle topper
- 37 Hopping mad
- 38 Enjoy, as benefits
- 40 Buenos —
- 42 Johnnycake
- 43 Caesar's tongue
- 45 Gem measure
- 47 Hit the jackpot
- 48 Spread out

Down

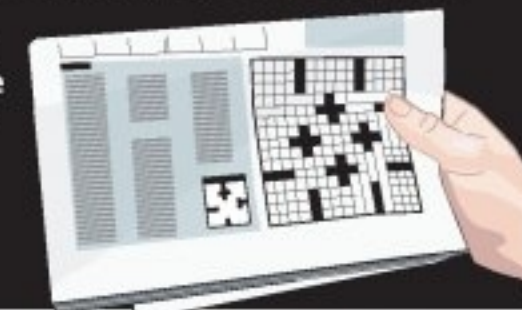
- 50 Candlepower
- 52 Ukraine's capital
- 54 Rodeo gear
- 58 Brisk musical passages
- 62 Mooring site
- 63 Below, on a map
- 64 The sun, for one (2 wds.)
- 67 Nudges
- 68 On the blink
- 69 Buckeye campus
- 70 Earned a citation
- 71 Monk's cloister
- 72 Party fabric



- 5 It has a long arm
- 6 Way back when
- 7 Look radiant
- 8 Hardtop
- 9 County subdivision
- 10 Viking letter
- 11 King beaters
- 12 Profs, probably
- 15 Saddle horn
- 17 It may be shaken
- 21 Stick up
- 23 "Orinoco Flow" singer
- 24 Greek column type
- 27 Bucolic
- 29 Say frankly
- 30 In — veritas
- 31 Blissful spot
- 32 WWW addresses
- 33 Type of tide
- 34 PC fodder
- 36 Hazard
- 39 Took part in a strike
- 41 Tale of derring-do
- 44 Whinnies
- 46 Frugal
- 49 "— Rosenkavalier"

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Yesterday's answer



- 51 Shallow pans
- 53 Russian export
- 55 TV chef — Brown
- 56 Kid
- 57 Majorette's gait
- 58 Deadly snakes
- 59 Aerial maneuver
- 60 — Skywalker
- 61 Medicine-chest item
- 65 PD dispatch
- 66 Wish undone

Report: Rondo dealt to Dallas

NBA. Ainge finally pulls the trigger on deal that will extend C's rebuilding process.

On June 28, 2006, the Celtics selected Rajon Rondo with the 21st overall pick in that year's NBA draft. From that day forward, his name was floated in nearly every trade rumor that involved the green.

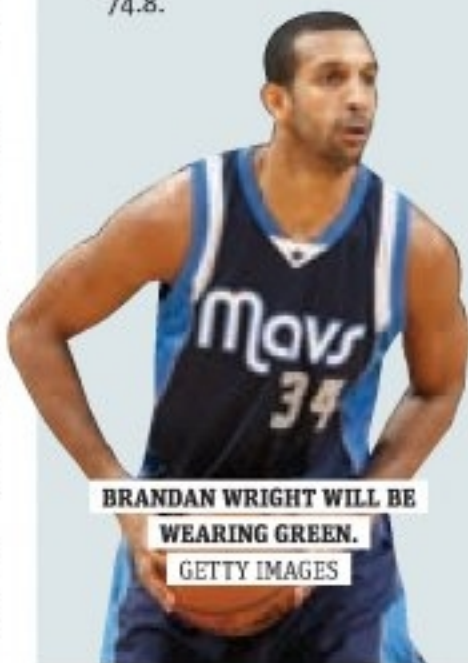
More than eight years after the selection, Celtics president of basketball operations Danny Ainge finally dealt the temperamental point guard on Thursday (according to multiple reports), sending No. 9 to Dallas in exchange for Brandan Wright, Jae Crowder, Jameer Nelson, a 2015 first-round pick and a future second-round pick.

Rondo, 28, is in the final season of a five-year, \$55 million contract and was said to have wanted a maximum

The Wright deal?

The centerpiece of the deal for Boston, aside from the draft pick, is center Brandan Wright.

- Wright is an athletic big man in his seventh NBA season out of North Carolina.
- Wright leads the NBA in field goal percentage at 74.8.



BRANDAN WRIGHT WILL BE WEARING GREEN.
GETTY IMAGES

deal this summer. It has seemed for quite awhile that the Celtics were unwilling to give Rondo the max money he coveted.

The writing may have been on the wall for a Rondo move ever since the Celtics selected Oklahoma State point guard Marcus Smart sixth overall in this past year's draft.

Rondo was one of the more unique players in Celtics history, with his herky-jerky moves and ability to rack up triple-double after triple-double. This season, Rondo was averaging 8.3 points per game, a whopping 10.8 assists per game and 7.5 rebounds per game.

Rondo was a key member of the Celtics' 2008 World Championship team, scoring 21 points in Boston's clinching Game 6 win at TD Garden over the Lakers in the Finals.



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Celtics point guard Rajon Rondo was reportedly traded to the Mavericks on Thursday. / GETTY IMAGES

NFL. What to watch for this Sunday as the Pats take on the Jets in New Jersey

Here are three things to look for when the Pats tackle the Jets this Sunday at MetLife Stadium (1 p.m., CBS):

1 Running joke

Say what you want about the Jets (be nice, it's the holidays), but when it comes to the running game, they're one of the best teams in the NFL on both sides of the ball. Partially due to their overall incompetence at quarterback, the Jets run it a lot — fourth most in the NFL to be exact. Their 4.7 yards per carry and 147 yards per game rank second in the NFL, as Chris Johnson and Chris Ivory lead the two-headed attack. For that reason, the Jets are good at controlling the clock. Just look at the last game against the Patriots where they doubled them in time of possession (and yet, somehow still managed to lose). On defense, the Jets rank fourth in the NFL,



Darrelle Revis returns to MetLife Stadium on Sunday. / GETTY IMAGES

allowing just 87.5 yards per game.

2 The Revis effect

Well, Jets fans, Patriots

fans definitely understand why you all loved Darrelle Revis so much over the years. The now-Patriots cornerback has been an absolute stud all season, virtually eliminating his man or side of the field as an option. Yes, Revis Island is a very lonely place. And this Sunday, he gets to haunt his former team yet again and remind them of the one that got away.

3 Get up early

As good as the Patriots offense has looked since Week 4, lately they've gotten off to some slow starts. The formula on Sunday is pretty simple: Put some points on the board early and force the Jets to play catch-up through the air. Why? Because the Jets passing offense is dead last in the NFL, averaging just 169 yards per game. In other words, they won't catch anything but boos from the Jets faithful.

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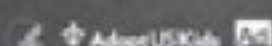
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